

MAKE OR BREAK NIGHT FOR BLUES

WYCOMBE Wanderers, now trailing Enfield by 11 points, could do themselves the world of good tonight (Tuesday) when they visit Southbury Road to take on the leaders of the Rothmans Isthmian League, Division One.

Apart from the three points at stake, the Blues would put themselves in exactly the right frame of mind for the visit of Enfield to Loakes Park, a date for which has still to be arranged, and also for the final run-in to the season. But even if Wanderers beat Enfield twice, the current leaders would still be two points ahead, which means Wycombe have to rely on other clubs to win them the championship.

Any pressure Wycombe can put on Enfield is invaluable, for the Middlesex club have some tough fixtures in their last 10 matches. The Blues faltered slightly at Bishop's Stortford on Saturday, being held to a 1-1 draw, while Enfield tucked three more points under their belts with a 1-0 victory at Kingstonian. Added to that, Enfield clinched another narrow 1-0 win in midweek at Hendon.

At the moment they are just edging home by the odd goal and it is those sort of results and that consistency that will decide the title. Wycombe must bring the run of Enfield victories to a halt tonight if they are to stand a chance of the championship.

Much will depend on the final matches of the term and Wycombe's certainly look much the easier. They have to meet Enfield, Bromley, Bishop's Stortford, Barking, Dulwich Hamlet and Dagenham at home and Bromley, Walton, Walthamstow and Tooting away. Enfield have only four matches at home — Dagenham, Leatherhead, Slough and Wycombe and six away — Woking, Wycombe, Slough, Sutton, Oxford and Hitchin.

Enfield, who built virtually a completely new team after finishing 19th in the table last year, have been on top almost all season. In staying there, however, they have come in for a good deal of problems on the field with no less than 14 players booked and two sent off. Wycombe in that time, have had only one player cautioned. They have lost only three times — at Walton, Stortford and Leatherhead.

They are expected to make a couple of changes from the side that beat Kingstonian on Saturday. For that game, their top goalscorer Dennis Gill was only substitute and he should return

to the forwards tonight. Either John Ritchie or Peter Cruse will stand down. Derek Baker, the former Hendon midfield man, is also set to return in midfield which would mean Micky O'Sullivan dropping to right back, Tony Jennings to centre back and Phil Fry moving to left back. Fred Callaghan, the ex-Fulham player, would drop out of the side if this switch was made.

Enfield will play a 4-4-2 formation and select their team from Mick Lowe, Tony Jennings, Brian Wilson, Phil Fry, Fred Callaghan, John Tone, Micky O'Sullivan, Alan Jackett, Les Eason, Peter Cruse, John Ritchie, Derek Baker and Gill.

Wanderers are expected to field the same 12 that drew at Stortford. Dave Bullock could make way for Dylan Evans on the substitute's bench as the Blues must bank totally on attack and three points.

A considerable improvement in midfield will be needed, especially as Enfield play four in the middle, if Wycombe are to win a game that could make or break their chances of the championship.